

PROCESS FOR TYPING OF HCV ISOLATES

- contacting said sample in which the ribonucleotides or deoxyribonucleotides have been made accessible, if need be, under suitable denaturation, with at least one probe from about 10 to about 40 nucleotides, with said probe being liable to hybridize to a region being in the domain extending from nucleotide at position -291 to nucleotide at position -66 of the 5' untranslated region of one of the HCV isolates represented by their cDNA sequences, with said numbering of position beginning with the first ATG codon of the open reading frame encoding the HCV polyprotein, or with said probe being complementary to the above-defined probes,

- detecting the complexes possibly formed between said probe and the nucleotide sequence of the HCV isolate to be identified.

(No figure)

Table 1. Demographic characteristics of the study population	
Age (years)	Mean (SD)
Male	55.2 (10.5)
Female	58.1 (11.2)
Marital status	
Married	78.5%
Single	21.5%
Education level	
High school or above	65.2%
Below high school	34.8%
Occupation	
White collar	45.1%
Blue collar	54.9%
Income (USD/month)	
< 1000	12.3%
1000-2000	35.7%
2000-3000	28.9%
> 3000	23.1%
Health insurance	
Yes	89.4%
No	10.6%
Smoking status	
Current smoker	18.7%
Former smoker	22.5%
Non-smoker	58.8%
Alcohol consumption	
Regular	15.2%
Occasional	28.9%
Never	55.9%
Family size	
1-2	32.1%
3-4	45.8%
5 or more	22.1%
Comorbidities	
Hypertension	42.3%
Diabetes	18.7%
Cholesterol	35.1%
Asthma	12.5%
Depression	25.4%
Medication use	
Regularly	68.9%
Irregularly	31.1%